ZELLAQ

361 South again of Malakiya is Zellaq, the southernmost village on the
342 western Coast of Bahrain and approximately three miles west of Sakhir. A road runs from Zellaq to Awali and is much used by BAPCO employees coming to swim at the former place. The houses of Zellaq village, which are of stone, are built along the shore and many of them are large and spacious. As a result of the activities of BAPCO, Zellaq village has increased in size and prosperity and now contains a number of substantial white stone buildings which are conspicuous from a long distance across the flat and sandy plain that surrounds it.

162 The inhabitants of Zellaq are Sunni Arabs; some are from the Dawasir tribe, and many of them are dependents of the Ruling Family.
311 North of the village there are a number of large gardens, irrigated by innumerable artesian wells, which are owned by members of the Ruling Family and by their servants; these gardens form a green belt along the two miles of coast between Zellaq and Sedad.

312 The Bahrain Petroleum Company has a pump house at Zellaq which supplies Awali with much of its water and Zellaq was also once the discharging point for tankers bringing crude oil from Saudi
517 Arabia; before the submarine pipe-line was laid. Near the pumping station is the BAPCO Plage, the excellent bathing place which is much used by the employees of BAPCO, particularly in the Summer evenings.

RAS AL-BARR

529 This, the southernmost point of the Bahrain islands, is a popular
484 place for summer picnics, but the approaches to it are difficult, and although never dangerous they can easily cause trouble to visitors by
491 the softness of the sand. It is best to travel in parties with not less than two cars, so that one can come to the help of the other if necessary, and care should be taken to keep to the tracks, however faintly indicated rather than to carve out new roads in the desert. The road to Ras al-Barr from Zellaq first passes through Mutalla, the Ruler's hunting lodge, while that from Awali past the Jebel passes another hunting lodge at Rumaitha before joining the Western road at Akala. From here the road goes south, past the swamps on the coast and along the narrow strip of sand which marks the end of the island.

136 In certain seasons of the year the shores along this part of Bahrain
262 are covered with the eggs of sea-birds, and many Arab dhows anchor off the coast while the crews remove the eggs for food. If one is lucky, while driving down the coast, hare and gazelle may be seen, as well as rose-tinted flamingoes on the shore.

MUHARRAQ ISLAND

MUHARRAQ

491 The visitor from Manama approaches Muharraq by crossing the
486 1¾ mile long causeway and Shaikh Hamed Bridge, completed in 1942,

The condition of school buildings varied, but in all cases overcrowding was common. The new schools are well built, lighted and ventilated and are provided with ample recreation space and adequate latrines and ablution facilities. Most of the others are reasonably good, but require improvements in lighting, ventilation, condition of floors and desks as the case may be. Samahij is, however, quite unsuitable and a new building is required. Some of the town schools are situated in congested areas and accordingly lack adequate playground space. All country schools must have good washing facilities and the pupils given routine baths. This would reduce their high incidence of disease resulting from dirt and uncleanliness.

The service has been well received by the teaching staff and has been given their full co-operation and help.

Port and Quarantine. The number of people entering Bahrain, their place of entry and the number arriving without valid certificates of vaccination were recorded as follows :—

Number of arrivals.	Place of Entry.	Number without valid vaccination certificate.
67,172	Manama Jetty	9,292
22,107	Muharraq Airport	721
2,112	Muharraq Jetty	684
2,344	P. C. L. Jetty, Sitra	nil
111	Sitra Port	nil
Total 93,846		10,697

This was an increase of 18,710 arrivals on last year's figures. Once again the heaviest traffic passed through Manama Jetty and also the largest number without vaccination certificates. This traffic was mostly local, coming from neighbouring Gulf ports by launch and dhow and necessitated a strict watch, but no quarantine measure other than vaccination was necessary.

Muharraq Airport still lacks adequate control arrangements for the segregation of passengers from the general public until they have passed through quarantine. To assist in this matter, a separate enclosure has now been provided for non-passengers, but due to lack of organisation it has not achieved its purpose.

The number of arrivals at Muharraq Jetty was small but important in that so many of them did not possess the necessary vaccination certificates.

Neither of the two remaining places of entry at Sitra presented any difficulty.

It was not necessary to place any person, ship or aircraft in quarantine and no case of quarantinable disease occurred during the year.

Medical attention was afforded to 1701 members of ships' crews, 1,258 attending the Port Health Dispensary at Sitra and the remaining 443 at the Public Health Dispensary in Manama. The Bahrain Government Hospital provided hospitalisation facilities and sick personnel from overseas tankers were accommodated in the Bahrain Petroleum Company's hospital. There were 36 heat cases with two deaths, otherwise illnesses were of a routine nature. Attention was again drawn to the inadequacy of arrangements on board many ships plying in the Persian Gulf in respect of insufficient supplies of cold drinking water, medicines, salt tablets, refrigeration, ventilation and air-conditioning facilities.

The Mecca Pilgrimage of the year 1372 Hegira (A.D. 1953). It is estimated that 2,578 pilgrims passed through Bahrain. All came by air, and a transit camp was established at the Airport. There was no case of infectious disease and all possessed the necessary certificates of vaccination against small-pox and cholera.

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Bahrain Port Health Regulations 1952 were drawn up in accordance with International Sanitary Regulations and were put into effect during the year.

Number of Ships granted Practique

After Boarding	352
Without Boarding	1179
Total	1531

Number of Passengers, Dhows and Launches arriving at Bahrain.

Manama Jetty	1558
Muharraq Jetty	157
P.C.L/ Jetty, Sitra	152
Total	1867

Number of Passenger Aircraft arriving at Muharraq Airport 4348

Number of Aircraft, Ships or other vessels placed in Quarantine .. .. nil.

Number of Deratization Exemption Certificates issued 38

Number of Vaccinations and Inoculations carried out against :

Smallpox	25,840
Cholera	3,698
Enteric Group	680
Yellow Fever	129
Typhus	120
Plague	104

During the year the Department[1] sent a deputation consisting of one of the members of the committee and the Superintendent to Kuwait to make a claim for the Waqf funds from the large and very valuable building on the Sea Road west of the Customs pier. This building was acquired by one Hilal Al Materi a Kuwaiti pearl merchant. He dedicated it as a Waqf for charitable purposes, not specifying whether the funds should be spent in Bahrain or in Kuwait. The Sunni Waqf Department obtained an opinion on the case from Al Azhar in Cairo supporting their claim that the Waqf should be spent in the country where the property was situated. The Deputation was not received with any enthusiasm in Kuwait, some sort of compromise was arrived at but at the end of the year the Department had not received any contribution from the Waqf towards charitable objects in Bahrain.

PASSPORT DEPARTMENT

(From the report of Mr. Kadhim Al Asfoor, Passport Officer)

Revenue. The total revenue was Rs. 53,789/-, about Rs. 19,000 less than was collected in 1371. This decrease was due to a shortage of book passports which were being printed in England. Some changes were made in the new passports which now contain the name of the holder on the outside of the cover as well as inside it. A further change in the wording is "date of birth" instead of "age," though at present very few of the people who use the passports know either the date of their birth or their age. Revenue from Travel Passes was Rs. 22,339, from entry forms, Rs. 8,236 and from miscellaneous forms Rs. 5,041.

Pilgrims. Only 280 persons did the Pilgrimage to Mecca, this number included 19 Persians, long resident in Bahrain who were granted passport facilities to perform the pilgrimage. Over 3,500 Shia pilgrims visited the Holy Cities of Iraq, an increase of about 500 over the previous year's number. These pilgrims included many people from the villages. Some of them crossed from Iraq to Persia and visited the Shia shrines of Persia. Such journeys are lengthy and expensive and the increase in the number of Shia pilgrims every year is an indication of prosperity among the working classes.

About 200 Arabs from Bahrain went to the Lebanon, mostly during the summer, this was about half the number who travelled there last year. In spite of inducements by the Government of the Lebanon to encourage tourists from the Gulf the people of Bahrain are beginning to find that they cannot afford to pay the excessively high prices which prevail in Beirut and in mountain resorts. The much advertised wealth of certain Gulf states seems to have caused the people of the Lebanon to regard any Arab from the Gulf as a rich traveller and a potential spender.

		Arrivals.	*Departures.*
Passengers.	By Air	22,542	23,758
	By steamers	13,206	13,136
	By Country Craft	34,220	35,228

Number of dhows and launches visiting Bahrain : 4,958.

During the year 1,077 gratis passes were issued to Shaikhs, their followers, teachers and students. Numerous members of the Ruling Family with their followers went on hunting trips to Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait.

During the diving season 496 Persian divers were allowed to land in Bahrain and to return to Persia after the diving season.

[1] [Sunni Waqf Department — Ar. Text]